

REMARKS

By the present amendment, Applicant proposes to change the dependency of claim 20 from claim 16 to claim 19 and to add a comma to claim 12. Entry of the present amendment in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 is respectfully requested.

The present amendment does not continue the prosecution of the present application, nor does it involve any significant additional work on the part of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Rather, the present amendment merely changes the dependency of a single dependent claim so that the recitations thereof have clearer antecedent basis and adds a comma to another dependent claim for clarity. Accordingly, entry of the present amendment will enhance the clarity of the claim language and thus reinforce and enhance the patentability of the claims pending in the present application.

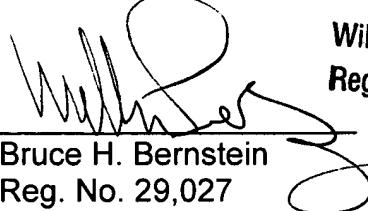
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner exercise her discretion and approve the present amendment for entry in the present application. Such action is respectfully requested and is now believed to be appropriate and proper.

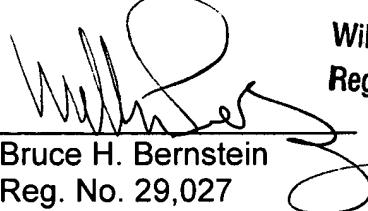
Entry of the present amendment does not raise any new issues requiring further consideration or search as only the dependency of a single claim is changed.

P23555.A08

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this paper, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Moriyasu SHIRAYANAGI


William Pieprz
Reg. No. 33,630


Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

December 27, 2005
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191